

S/N 09/458,862



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Allison Hubel

Examiner: Elli Peselev

Serial No.: 09/458,862

Group Art Unit: 1623

Filed: December 10, 1999

Docket: 600.451US1

Title: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR CRYOPRESERVATION OF  
PERIPHERAL BLOOD LYMPHOCYTES

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12-10-02  
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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the final Office Action dated May 30, 2002 and the Advisory Action dated November 18, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please substitute the claim set in the appendix entitled "Clean Version of Pending Claims" for the previously pending claim set. The specific amendments to individual claims are detailed in the following marked-up set of claims.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Four times amended) A cryopreservation medium comprising a balanced electrolyte solution incorporating at least one cryoprotective agent that is arabinogalactan, or a biological or functional equivalent thereof, which agent is present in an amount of 1% w/v to 40% w/v, and freshly isolated lymphocytes, hematopoietic stem cells, lymphocytes which are modified *ex vivo*, or a combination thereof, wherein the medium does not comprise dimethylsulfoxide or serum, and wherein the arabinogalactan, a biological or functional equivalent thereof, in the medium results in a high post-thaw survival rate for the freshly isolated lymphocytes, hematopoietic stem cells, or lymphocytes which are modified ex vivo.

26. (Twice amended) A method for preserving cells comprising:

(a) contacting cells with a cryopreservation medium comprising a balanced electrolyte solution and at least one cryoprotective agent that is arabinogalactan, or a biological or functional equivalent thereof, in an amount of 1% w/v to 40% w/v, to yield a cell suspension, wherein the cells are freshly isolated lymphocytes,